

Message Text

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ACTION INT-05

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SUBJECT: U.S.-POLISH COOPERATION IN MINING TECHNOLOGY

REFS: (A) WARSAW 2326, (B) WARSAW 5667, (C) STATE 207710,
(D) WARSAW 5326, (E) WARSAW 5653

1. BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 9 AND 11 THE SCIATT ACCOMPANIED THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF MINES, DR. JOSEPH YANCIK, AND TWO ASSOCIATES TO KATOWICE FOR TALKS WITH OFFICIALS AT THE MINISTRY OF MINING AND SPECIALISTS AT THE CENTRAL MINING INSTITUTE. YANCIK AND KSANDER WERE RECEIVED BY VICE MINISTER STRANZ IN A CORDIAL WORKING ATMOSPHERE, MARRED ONLY BY THE RECENT POLISH MINE DISASTER IN WHICH SEVENTEEN LIVES WERE LOST. YANCIK OFFERED BOM'S AND HIS OWN CONDOLENCES AND KSANDER INFORMED STRANZ THAT SECRETARY KLEPPE WAS BEING INFORMED OF THE ACCIDENT. THE GENERAL DISCUSSION, IN WHICH YANCIK OUTLINED BOM'S REVISED PLANS FOR COOPERATION AND KSANDER THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF COOPERATION THROUGH THE JOINT FUND, WAS TERMED BY STRANZ AS COMPREHENSIVE AND FRUITFUL.

2. BOM PROPOSED AND THE MINISTRY OFMING ACCEPTED
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IN PRINCIPLE A REVISED WORK PLAN FOR THE FIVE POLISH PROPOSALS SUBMITTED EALIER, (REF A AND WARSAW A-159 DATED

APRIL 16, 1976) WHICH CALLS FOR A
REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS AND REFLECTS BOM'S
SHIFTING PRIORITIES. UNDER THE REVISED PROPOSALS
COAL PREPARATION WILL BE DE-EMPHASIZED IN FAVOR OF
PROPOSALS FOR MECHANIZED LONGWALL MINING AND SUBSIDANCE,
TWO AREAS WITH ESTABLISHED POLISH EXPERTISE. THE
PROPOSED NO-FUND INCREASE ALLOCATIONS IN MILLION
ZLOTYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MECHANIZED LONGWALL	10.0
SUBSIDANCE	4.5
PENETROMETER	3.5
METHANE	3.3
COAL PREPARATION	4.0

3. THE TWO BOM SPECIALISTS SCHMIDT AND WARNKE WILL
REMAIN IN KATOWICE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14 TO HELP
FORMULATE THE TECHNICAL AND FISCAL DETAILS OF THE
NEW WORK PLAN TO REFLECT CHANGES OCCASIONED BY
REALLOCATION OF FUNDS AND THE NEW POLISH SALARY RATES.
THERE IS A CHANCE THAT THEY WILL RETURN WITH DRAFT
COPIES OF PROPOSALS WHICH THE CENTRAL MINING
INSTITUTE HOPES TO SUBMIT OFFICIALLY TO THE
EMBASSY BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

4. THERE ARE NO MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH THE WORK PLAN,
ALTHOUGH THE POLES HAVE AGAIN RAISED THE ISSUE OF
THE AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT FROM THE U.S.
THEY WERE TOLD THAT BOM HAS NO DOLLAR FUNDS AT ITS DISPOSAL
BUT HAS NO OBJECTIONS IF THE POLES PUR-
CHASE THE EQUIPMENT IN THE U.S. OR ELSEWHERE. BOM
OFFERED TO LEND EQUIPMENT TO THE POLES IF
AVAILABLE AND PROVIDED THE POLISH SIDE UNDERWRITES
ROUND-TRIP TRANSPORTATION COSTS.

5. VICE MINISTER STRANZ RAISED TWO ADDITIONAL
ISSUES: 1) HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT BOM WOULD GIVE
CONSIDERATION TO THE NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED
FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE JOINT FUND AND TRANSMITTED
TO BOM UNDER A-255 DATED AUGUST 13, 1976. HE
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SINGLED OUT UNDERGROUND GEOPHYSICAL
METHODS AND MULTISEAM MINING AND ROCK BOLTING
AS IMPORTANT AREAS OF RESEARCH, THE FIRST TWO BEING
AREAS IN WHICH THE POLES HAVE HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE.
WHEN ASKED ABOUT FUNDING, STRANZ SUGGESTED BOM DOLLAR
APPROPRIATIONS OR THE POLISH DEPOSITS INTO THE JOINT FUND AFTER
DECEMBER 31, 1976 (REF B). STRANZ WAS ADVISED THAT THE
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ISSUE WITH REGARD TO POLISH
FUNDED ACTIVITY HAS YET TO BE RESOLVED; (2) HE
REQUESTED THAT YANCIK REACTIVATE THE CONCEPT OF

BOM-FUNDED FELLOWSHIPS FOR POLISH MINING SPECIALISTS AT U.S. UNIVERSITIES. IN THE NEXT THREE TO FOUR YEARS HE WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN FOUR FELLOWSHIPS FOR YOUNG (UNDER 40) POST-DOCTORATES WITH LANGUAGE CAPABILITY. YANCIK PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THIS MATTER AND REQUESTED THAT MINISTRY OF MINING NOMINATE TWO CANDIDATES FOR BOM CONSIDERATION. STRANZ STATED THAT WHILE POLAND HAS MANY GOOD THEORISTS, IT URGENTLY NEEDS EXPOSURE TO APPLIED RESEARCH. HE OFFERED TO RECEIVE IN POLAND U.S. SPECIALISTS ON A SIMILAR BASIS.

6. STRANZ REAFFIRMED THE MINISTRY OF MINING'S INTEREST IN THE VISIT LATE OCTOBER-EARLY NOVEMBER OF THE POUNDSTONE DELEGATION FOR TEN DAYS. (REFS C, D, AND E). THE MINISTRY WILL PREPARE A PROGRAM WHICH THE EMBASSY WILL TRANSMIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
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